GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:551
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2000
BACKWARD DISTRICTS
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the backward districts of the country are situated in the Marathwada, Raigad, Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput, Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur and Telangana regions;

(b) if so, whether the Government have analysed the causes and consequences of backwardness in these regions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the programmes implemented by the Government for the development and upliftment of backward areas so far, have not shown desired results;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government are going to take up a series of time bound action plans to root out the backwardness of these regions; and
(g) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a) to (g) :- A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in the reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 551 due for reply on 4.5.2000.

A Committee (headed by Principal Adviser, Planning Commission) was constituted in 1997 to, inter-alia, identify the 100 most backward / poorest districts in the country. The broad parameters adopted by the Committee to analyse the causes of backwardness, included indicators of deprivation (poverty ratio) and social and economic infrastructure. The 100 most backward / poorest districts identified by the Committee included 38 districts in Bihar, 19 districts in Madhya Pradesh, 17 districts in Uttar Pradesh, 10 districts in Maharashtra, 4 districts each in Orissa and West Bengal, 2 districts each in Rajasthan and Sikkim and 1 district each in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

2. The Ministry of Rural Development are implementing programmespertaining, inter-alia, to poverty alleviation, employment generation, infrastructure development, watershed schemes, social security and land reforms, with a view to improve the quality of life in the rural areas and assist people below the poverty line. These programmes are being closely monitored and are being evaluated from time to time. The programmes implemented for the development of backward areas have helped in improving the living conditions in these areas.